

Clark County Veterans Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
An advisory board to the Clark County Board of Councilors
August 13, 2015

1300 Franklin Street, Room #680
Vancouver, Washington

Chair: Bruce Maas

Vice Chair: Thomas Kula

Secretary: Mike Gibson

Meeting called to order by Bruce Maas

Roll Call: **[Bold script indicates presence at meeting]**

POST

40 et 8
American Legion #14
American Legion #27
American Legion #168
American Legion #176
American Veterans #6
DAV Chapter #4
Korean War Assoc. #321
Marine Corps League #826
VFW #4278
VFW #7824
VFW # 12028
Vietnam Vets #512
Members at Large

PRIMARY

Sam Grooms
Dixie Hotaling
Elisa Cotton
Robert Nichols
Michael Gibson
John Lovejoy
Thomas Kula
George Raynor
Lou Basté
John Raynor
Bruce Maas
Skip Bengé
Greg Whitson
Kevin Lawson
Candis Oliver

ALTERNATE

Steve Slegers
Dean Collins
Shawn O'Neil
Richard Langenbach
Jonathan Frederick
Bubba Conway
Frank Hyatt
Randy Warneke

Gary Dowler
Dale Rex
Dave Barton
Joseph Fetting

Clark County Representative: Samantha Whitley

Guests: Judy Russel, (Veterans Assistance Center); Joe Levesque (citizen); Michael Langsdorf (citizen)
Greg Kimsey (Clark County Auditor); Councilor David Madore (Clark County)

July 9, 2015, Meeting Minutes

Bob Nichols moved to approve the July minutes. Dixie Hotaling seconded. Motion carried.

County Auditor Presentation

Greg Kimsey provided information that DD214s may be recorded for no charge and copies may be obtained for no charge. These documents are not subject to public records.

Councilor Madore Comments

Councilor Madore expressed appreciation for the work done at the Stand Down, August 12, 2015. Appreciation was expressed by the board to Senator Murray, State Senator Cleveland and Wilson, and Councilor Madore, for attending the Stand Down.

Committee Reports

Appeals

Five July appeals were approved and one was denied as over-income.

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Policies and Procedures

The Policy and Procedures committee met July 11. Recommendations include:

1. Policy 2.6, include "Documentation addressing savings accounts will be required when auto repair, housing, utility expenses exceeding \$500 are involved."
2. Policy 3.5.1 requires a utility disconnect notice, however shut-off notices are not provided for delinquent sewer payments. No changes recommended at this time, since sewer delinquencies can be handled through water shut-off notices.
3. Policy 3.7, add "Gas vouchers may also be available within the C-Tran area if circumstances require it."

Bob Nichols moved to accept the recommendations. Steve Slegers seconded. The motion carried.

Nominations

Clarification was sought whether officers now serve a two-year term. The by-laws will be reviewed.

June Contractor Reports & County Fund Report

The Veterans Assistance Center provided emergency services for 61 veterans at a cost of \$25,947. The VAC was monitored in January, March, and June, with no problems found.

The Free Dental Clinic treated seven veterans, for which the fund was billed \$1,015.

The Veterans Assistance Fund balance was \$424,342 at the end of June.

Veterans Assistance Center Update

More than 70 vendors served more than 200 veterans at the Stand Down, August 12, 2015. More than half of the veterans served were homeless.

The Center's remodel is complete. A grand re-opening is planned for September. The Center has been processing more VA claims each week now that more space is available.

Old Business

No discussion at this time.

New Business

No discussion at this time.

Open Forum

- Fisher House due to open this fall.
- The Women's Veterans Connect will meet Saturday, September 26, 11:00 a.m., at 40 et 8.
- Joe Levesque followed up with the board on his request for a letter to WSU regarding the All American Financial Aid Relief Program.

Adjournment

Bob Nichols moved to adjourn the meeting. Thomas Kula seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Meeting adjourned early for board participation in strategic planning for 2016.

Next Meeting

September 10, 2015, at 1400 hours, in the Councilors' Hearing Room.